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NOTICE

Because of a printing error, the cover of the South Asia DAILY REPORT published on Tuesday, 31 July 1984, has an incorrect day, date, and issue number. The correct version should read: FBIS-SAS-84-148, Tuesday, 31 July 1984, Vol VIII, No 148. The inside pages of the book are dated correctly.

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MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

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Hijacked French Airliner

The hijackers of a French airliner surrendered to the Iranian authorities after releasing their hostages and blowing up the plane's cockpit, Tehran radio reported. Earlier, while the crisis at Mehrabad Airport was still unresolved, the radio announced that Iranian officials had agreed to publicize a statement by the hijackers in order to save passengers' lives. In the statement, broadcast by the radio, the hijackers said their action was aimed against the "criminal" French leaders, who are attempting to establish "a new empire." Calling themselves "The Islamic Organization for the Liberation of Jerusalem," the hijackers pledged to continue their "comprehensive measures" against the interests of the French Government throughout the world.

Following the hijackers' surrender, the French charge d'affaires thanked Iranian officials for their efforts to resolve the crisis without bloodshed, IRNA reported. The agency had earlier stressed the need for the French Government's cooperation to prevent disaster and had also reported the FRG foreign minister's messages to Iranian leaders requesting them to do whatever they could to end the crisis peacefully. As for the hijackers, IRNA said they were Lebanese and noted their "nervous" behavior in negotiations with Iranian officials.

Explosions in Red Sea, Gulf of Suez

A mine explosion damaged a Greek merchant ship off the YAR coast in the Red Sea and another mine exploded near a Turkish vessel in the same area, an official YAR source announced in a statement reported by San'a' radio. Stressing the YAR's concern about these incidents and its determination to defend its territorial waters, the North Yemeni official said all the Red Sea's littoral states share the responsibility of protecting the region's security and stability. Meanwhile, the General Council of British Shipping warned British shipowners that their vessels should proceed with "extreme caution" in the Gulf of Suez following the recent series of unexplained explosions against ships in the area, AFP noted. However, navigation remains "normal" in the Suez Canal, which is free of any explosives or mines left from the October 1973 war, the Canal Authority's director asserted in a statement reported by MENA.

Israel

The Likud and Alignment leaders adjourned their debate on economic issues and decided to resume it next week, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio noted its correspondent's impression that Likud has "come to terms" with the possibility that President Hayim Herzog will entrust Alignment leader Shim'on Pereswith the task of forming a government. Earlier, after meeting with Herzog, Yahad leader 'Ezer Weizman said he had recommended that the president offer the premiership to Peres, according to the report.

Lebanon

The security plan for the Ash-Shuf mountain area is being obstructed by Walid Junblatt's refusal to allow the Lebanese Army to deploy in the area, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Junblatt, a government minister who also leads the Progressive Socialist Party, confirmed his refusal to let the Army enter the Druze area in a message to President Amin al-Jumayyil broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio. "We have refused to let it enter our areas under the terms submitted to us," Junblatt said, and the opposition forces have not dropped their "national demands" regarding the role and reform of the Army. Junblatt subsequently visited Damascus for talks with Syrian officials on the Lebanese situation, according to Voice of the Mountain.

Meanwhile, an IDF soldier was killed and another was wounded in a grenade attack in An-Nabatiyah, Jerusalem radio disclosed. In northern Lebanon, clashes resumed between Sunni and 'Alawi gunmen in Tripoli following the assassination of an Islamic Unification Movement official, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Sudan

Rebel attacks in the south have effectively halted oil prospecting operations and work on the Jonglei Canal project, Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman admitted at a press conference in Abu Dhabi reported by KUNA.

Arab-African Cooperation

In a speech at the opening session of the Arab-African Cooperation Commission in Banghazi, broadcast by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio, Libya's Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi warned African states against cooperating with Israel, asserting that "there can be no Arab-African cooperation with the existence of African-Zionist cooperation." Earlier, in remarks broadcast by Paris radio, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi deplored the Zairean president's proposal for a league of black African states, contending that this would undermine Arab-African cooperation.

Tehran Arabic Reports Attacks on Iraqi Troops ..... I 6
Liberation Fighters Execute Revolution Guards ..... I 6
Revolution Committee Official Killed ..... I 7

Kabul on Victories Over Counterrevolutionaries

LD030553 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 Aug 84

[Text] In pursuance of the 13th PDPA Central Committee plenum's resolutions concerning the intensification of struggle against the counterrevolutionaries, the country's security forces dealt shattering blows to the moribund body of rebels, and our working people were freed from the danger of these criminals.

Quoting a security source in Balkh Province a BAKHTAR correspondent reports that as a result of recent operations carried out in the villages of that province, a number of armed rebels were crushed and eight of them were captured along with two mortars and seven assorted weapons.

According to another report from Ghazni Province, during a successful operation mounted recently in the villages of that province, a number of rebels were crushed and 10 of them were captured.

Speaking to a BAKHTAR correspondent in Qandahar city, a spokesman for the security forces said that as a result of recent operations carried out by the security forces in the villages of that province, 5 rebels were crushed and one rocket launcher, seven assorted weapons, and a quantity of antigovernment documents were seized from them.

Reporting to BAKHTAR correspondent in Samangan, Konarha, and Parwan provinces, security spokesmen in these provinces have said that as a result of successful operations carried out in the villages of these provinces, a number of rebels were crushed, four of them captured, and assorted weapons seized from them by the security forces.

Similarly, during an operation mounted in the villages of Paktia Province a number of armed rebels were crushed and a quantity of weapons, 10 antitank mines, 7 antipersonnel mines, and 20 mortar mines [as heard] were seized from them.

Clandestine on Successful Mujahidin Operations

GF021835 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Pashto 1700 GMT 2 Aug 84

[Summary] Reports received from the northern regions of the country indicate that the Muslim mujahidin's successful attacks against the Soviet-Karmal forces and installations continue. Reports received indicate that our mujahidin in Mazar-e Sharif city killed two enemy soldiers in a housing area of a natural gas installation. Thousands of people work in this installation which is under direct control of Soviet experts who supervise the piping of natural gas to the Soviet Union. This installation is of strategic importance to the Soviets and their puppets in Afghanistan. The mujahidin also killed one mercenary official of the puppet regime in Mazar-e Sharif.

In another attack, our mujahidin wounded two officials of the postal department in Shatarak in Herat. In another attack in the Dewanchah region of Herat, four enemy soldiers were killed and one tank was destroyed.

Other reports say that Soviet aircraft bombed the suburbs of Herat and killed or wounded 30 civilians.

Another reports say that the mujahidin attacked the headquarters of the Ministry of Defense in Kabul and caused considerable damage. Details on losses and casualties have not yet been received. Mujahidin attacks in Kabul have intensified since Ramadan.

Briefs

PDPA-Lao Cooperation Protocol — Kabul, August 1, BAKHTAR — The first protocol of party cooperation between the PDPA and Lao Peoples Revolutionary Party (LPRP) was concluded in Moscow on July 27, 1984 for the years 1984-85. The protocol was signed by Habib Mangal, member of the Central Committee of the PDPA and ambassador extra-ordinary and plenipotentiary of the DRA in Moscow and from the side of Lao People's Revolutionary Party by Khamtay Dua Negto Regla, member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party. [Text][Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 2 Aug 84 LD]

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MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 AUGUST 1984

Gulf Conflict

Iraqi warplanes attacked a very large maritime target south of Khark Island on 7 August, hitting the target "accurately and effectively," an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. INA later reported that an Iraqi missile had hit the Liberian-chartered tanker *Friendship L*, causing undetermined damage. This report was confirmed by a Lloyd's representative, according to INA. The attack followed Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan's warning, reported by INA, that Iraq would take new and more effective measures to tighten the siege of Khark Island. Ramadan was speaking in Ankara, where he also announced that Iraq and Turkey have agreed to construct a new oil pipeline with a capacity of over 500,000 barrels per day, according to INA.

Meanwhile, Iraqi RCC Deputy Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim continued his Gulf tour with brief visits to Qatar and the UAE, WAKH noted.

Red Sea, Gulf of Suez

Egypt has its own measures to protect the waters of the Gulf of Suez but cannot speak about them openly at the moment, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak stated in remarks reported by MENA. He indicated that Egypt is likely to request minesweeping helicopters from the United States. In a related statement reported by MENA, Egyptian Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah stressed that the Gulf of Suez is safe for international shipping and that the explosions in the area were not caused by mines but by less powerful devices designed to cause confusion rather than to destroy ships. If a country is responsible for these incidents, he added, it is evidently not trying to block maritime routes but is retaliating for what is going on in the Gulf area.

Meanwhile, an Iranian press editorial cited by Tehran radio's Arabic service warned against linking the explosions in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea with the Iran-Iraq war, claiming that hostile sides such as the CIA are blaming Iran for the explosions in order to incite public opinion against the Islamic republic. Nevertheless, a commentary by the radio praised the planting of the mines by "a revolutionary Muslim organization" as another blow against "the arrogant powers," adding that not only Islamic land but also Muslim seas and waters are now forbidden to "the colonizers and the invaders."

Mubarak in Yugoslavia

President Mubarak began talks in Yugoslavia with his SFRY counterpart Veselin Djuranovic, MENA reported. Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said the discussions were held in an "extremely friendly atmosphere," the agency added.

Iran

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni received Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, an envoy from Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, and families and Majlis deputies from Bakhtaran, Tehran radio reported. The clandestine Radio Iran contended that the meetings were arranged in order to dispel rumors pertaining to Khomeyni's illness.

Israel

Alignment leader Shim'on Peres and Likud leader Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met to discuss the establishment of a unity government, Jerusalem radio reported. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Peres said the talks were "very sincere" and were held in a "very friendly atmosphere." It was decided to continue the discussions on 9 August, according to the radio.

In a related development, the MAPAM faction of the Alignment failed to pass a resolution against the establishment of a national unity government with the Likud, Jerusalem television reported. Meanwhile, National Religious Party leader Yosef Burg rejected the Alignment's proposal to freeze settlement plans and make concessions to Jordan, Jerusalem radio noted.

Lebanon

Three IDF soldiers were wounded by a roadside bomb northeast of Tyre, IDF radio announced.

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Prime Minister Keshtmand Leaves for USSR

LD061523 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1245 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, 6 Aug (BAKHTAR) — Soltan Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and Chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, this morning left for the Soviet Union for a brief stay.

At Kabul International Airport Soltan Ali Keshtmand was seen off by Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretariat of the PDPA Central Committee, and other members of the Politburo, vice chairmen and members of the Council of Ministers, and Aleksandr Abolov, charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

Daily Decries New U.S. Aid Allocation for Rebels

LD070616 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 6, BAKHTAR — According to international news media the concerned committee of the House of Representatives of the U.S. has recently endorsed the allocation of another 50 million dollars to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries in Pakistan and Iran, writes daily *HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-SAWR*. The new allocation has been endorsed in addition to the 70 million dollars already allotted by the CIA apparatus for the same purpose.

In accordance with the published figures in the news media, only the USA has put almost 218 million dollars at the disposal of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries for the procurement of arms and munitions till the year 1983. More than 100 million dollars have been granted by the CIA to the ringleaders of the counter-revolutionaries in the same period.

The United States has been able to get 600 million dollars from its NATO allies, the Arab and regional reactionary countries for the same purpose. Thus, the volume of these aids has surpassed one billion dollars.

Washington has completely realized that in spite of the flooding of diverse "assistance" to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries, it is not able to attain its strategic objectives in the region.

Washington administration, in the wake of its ignominious defeats in the undeclared war against Afghanistan, has resorted to a new strategy. It tries to establish the so-called "government in exile" of Afghanistan beyond the frontiers of the country. This heinous plan of Washington, which is regarded as a flagrant and shameless violation of the international norms and laws, has been divulged long time ago, and is seriously denounced by the progressive and peace-loving countries of the world.

However, these desperate efforts will not divert the people of Afghanistan from the path, they have already chosen, the daily concludes.

Victories Over Rebels in Provinces Continue

Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpts] In continuation of the successful operations by the country's security forces in cooperation with our noble compatriots to cleanse villages and hamlets from the foul existence of rebel bands, recently a number of rebels were crushed and 22 rebels were captured in Ghazni Province.

According to another report, a number of armed rebels, including Mir Halim, leader of the criminal Gulboddin band, were crushed in operations recently carried out by the security forces in Parwan Province. The security forces seized a rocket-launcher and 6 assorted weapons.

Similarly, in the course of operations by the vigilant security forces in Qandahar and Paktia Provinces a number of armed rebels, who, on the orders of their imperialist masters had disrupted people's peaceful lives and engaged in terror and plundering, were crushed. A quantity of weapons and ammunition was seized from them.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Helmand, Badghis, Baghlan and Vardak Provinces that recently 11 deceived persons, who were cooperating with rebels, realized the truth of the April Revolution and taking advantage of the amnesty decree of the DRA revolutionary council, surrendered with their weaponsto security forces.

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Plane Hijacking

An Iran Air plane, carrying 304 passengers, was hijacked during an internal flight and forced to fly to Cairo after refueling in Bahrain, Tehran radio reported. MENA reported that the 18 hijackers demanded fuel and food. It later added that the plane left Cairo on 8 August for Italy.

Gulf Conflict

Military Situation — An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA denied an IRNA report that an Iranian plane had shot down an Iraqi plane along the southern front. The spokesman reiterated that the only Iraqi air action on 7 August involved the attack on a "large maritime target" south of Khark Island. A Lloyd's Insurance Company spokesman confirmed the attack on the Greek-managed Liberian tanker *Friendship L* , according to INA. In reporting the attack, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio declared that all the Iraqi planes had returned safely, although an IRNA report later claimed that an Iraqi plane had been shot down during the attack.

Diplomatic Developments — Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim arrived in Oman where he discussed bilateral relations and the Iran-Iraq war in talks with Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id, WAKH reported. Earlier, a Kuwaiti official cited by the Kuwait paper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* denied reports that the issue of leasing Kuwaiti islands to Iraq was discussed during Ibrahim's recent visit to Kuwait.

In Tehran, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi stressed that Iran cannot agree to a compromise peace with Iraq because "that would not be in the interest of our system" and such a peace would "wipe out the achievements of the Islamic Revolution." In any case, the issues of peace and war are decided by the leader, not by the government, he pointed out in his remarks, which were broadcast by Tehran radio. He also strongly denied rumors that Iran's political moves are in conflict with its military moves.

Red Sea Explosions

The Iranian Foreign Ministry, in a statement reported by IRNA, accused the United States and Israel of mining the Red Sea in a "conspiracy" designed to discredit Iran and make the sea unsafe for Muslim pilgrims. It was clear that the United States and the "the Zionist regime" would resort to such a move to retaliate for their defeats in Lebanon and for the failure of their political and military schemes in the Persian Gulf, the statement contended. Earlier, during a press conference broadcast by Tehran radio, Iranian Prime Minister Musavi denied any Iranian involvement in the mining of the Red Sea and the Suez Canal area, claiming that the Islamic Jihad organization is "unknown" to the Iranian authorities. He warned that Iran "cannot remain silent" if its ships are harassed while passing through the Suez Canal.

Meanwhile, Paris radio reported that the Egyptian foreign minister is likely to request French assistance in removing mines from the Red Sea during his forthcoming talks with officials in France. The PDRY foreign minister said he would discuss the Red Sea explosions in talks with his counterpart in Kuwait, KUNA noted. In Israel, a security source cited by *HA'ARETZ* stressed that Israel will not "sit back with its arms folded" if the mines jeopardize free navigation to Elat. As for the effect of the mines on shipping, XINHUA disclosed that two Chinese ships were hit by mines in the Red Sea on 31 July and 3 August respectively. Nevertheless, the Egyptian chairman of the Suez Canal Authority stated that the "limited explosions" in the Red Sea are having no effect on the volume of shipping passing through the canal, MENA reported.

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Paper Decries Western 'Propaganda' Efforts

LD080656 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 7, BAKHTAR — Daily Kabul *NEW TIMES* published an article disclosing filthy methods used by the Western press in order to distort the truth about Afghanistan.

While the Government of Afghanistan is restoring old mosques and building new ones, the newspaper wrote, the Western press bewails the "ordeals of the faithful."

While the government parcels out aid to the peasants, supplies them with fertilizers and farm machinery, the Western newspapers speak of "growing discontent" among the peasantry.

But the favourite "hobby" of anti-Afghan propaganda is reporting the "victories" of the dushmans. It is already quite clear that the counter-revolutionary forces have not succeeded in doing what was expected of them. They are not supported by the population and they continue to exist only thanks to foreign aid, squabbles over which lead to ever-new divisions in their disunited camp. However, the weaker the forces of the rebels, the grander their exploits are made to appear on the pages of the Western press.

Citing nameless eyewitnesses, the newspaper went on to say, the bourgeois press reported some time ago "heavy fighting" between the rebels and government troops in the city of Paghman, northwest of Kabul. A West German journalist, Hubert Kuschnik, visited the place and saw, instead of the desolate ruins described in the "front-line reports," kindergartens which the state has housed in mansions surrounded by dense greenery.

A sample of "precise documentary" misinformation is afforded by the Paris *LE MONDE*. The article said it has dumbfounded its readers with a long list of Afghan communities that have allegedly been razed to the ground by air bombings. But when Francois Lepo, an Argentinian journalist, visited these settlements which still exist despite the affirmations of *LE MONDE*, he found no traces of any bombings.

The Western news agencies have repeatedly reported the assassination of members of the DRA leadership and were later obliged to refute their own reports. All records were broken in this respect by FRANCE-PRESSE. At first it spread the news of the assassination of Anahita Ratebzad, and the following day calmly telexed the news that Anahita Ratebzad had appeared in a television programme and delivered a speech.

The Afghan daily reminded, that "the Indian *NEW WAVE* weekly" had named some of the authors of the anti-Afghan slanders. They are employees of the CIA and the British special service MI-6, operating under the "cover" of the American and British Embassies in Pakistan and India.

The data published by the India weekly are confirmed by the British *GUARDIAN*. This paper says that it is not difficult to spot the cloven hoof of the CIA behind the divers "reports from Kabul."

Repeated attempts have been made to supplement the fabrication of misinformation with the fabrication of the facts themselves, Kabul *NEW TIMES* added, the Western instructors take advantage of the readiness of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries to do whatever they are told in exchange for military and financial aid. And so the dushmans carry out acts of sabotage their sponsors hope to be able to ascribe to the Afghan authorities. Thus, in Mazar-e Sharif, an attempt was made to blow up the famous Muslim shrine, the Hazrat Ali Mosque in Herat. The counter-revolutionaries scattered defiled pages of the Koran, affirming that this had been inspired by the government.

They commit many terrorist acts disguised as soldiers of the Afghan Armed Forces. All this is done in order, on the one hand to discredit the government, and on the other, to cause the public throughout the world to shudder over the "brutality and barbarism" of the Kabul authorities.

Teachers murdered and pupils knifed to death at their desks, hospitals blown-up and mullahs shot down on the thresholds of mosques. The Western press prefers to ignore such facts, the newspaper concluded. It fulfils the orders of those who are [words indistinct] to prolong, at all costs, the "undeclared war" against the sovereign state of Afghanistan, to reap some advantage from the death and the sufferings of thousands of people, the newspaper concluded.

IRNA: Mujahidin Capture Ghazni Garrison, Burn Camps

LD071736 Tehran IRNA in English 1453 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 7, IRNA — Afghan Muslim mujahidin who are fighting the Soviet-backed regime of Afghanistan, set ablaze military camps belonging to the Soviet and state forces in Paghman region in Kabul Province, last week.

According to reports, the Soviet and state forces, due to stepped up mujahidin operations, are forced to return to their military bases in Kabul at nights so that, after securing reinforcements, they return to fight mujahidin during the day.

Other reports received from Afghanistan indicate that during the past week, the Muslim fighters beseiged an important garrison adjacent to the city of Ghazni. After this confrontation, the military personnel inside the garrison surrendered themselves together with their arms to the Muslim mujahidin.

Following the garrison's surrender, Soviet helicopter gunships heavily bombarded it.

Furthermore, the Soviet occupation forces, who are patrolling with their tanks and other vehicles in the city of Kabul, in an effort to maintain order in the city, recently opened fire on the civilian population.

According to an eye-witness, a Soviet tank, while patrolling one of the streets, intentionally ran over a private car which resulted in the killing of all its passengers except the driver.

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Iran

Following the rejection by the Majlis of five Cabinet ministers, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi announced four of their replacements, including Colonel Mohammad Reza Rahimi as defense minister, Tehran radio reported. A new culture and higher education minister has yet to be named.

In a related development, the Majlis approved the appointments of three other newly introduced ministers, IRNA reported. The three ministers are those of information, justice, and housing and urban development.

Red Sea

British and French minesweepers arrived in Suez prior to beginning their hunt for mines on 17 August, MENA reported. The British, French, and U.S. minehunters will work in cooperation with Egyptian Naval Forces and the operation will be under the full control of the Egyptian military command, the agency said. Commenting on the search for mines in the Red Sea, IRNA stated that Iran demands the identification of the elements responsible for laying the mines, but added that it has grounds to question the competence and impartiality of those carrying out the search and would prefer the task to be carried out by Muslim and nonaligned states.

Israel

The consumer price index rose 12.4 percent in July, bringing the annual inflation rate to about 400 percent, according to a Central Bureau of Statistics report cited by Jerusalem radio. A trade union leader noted that this rise is the highest July price increase since the establishment of the state, and he warned that any intention by the government to change the labor or cost-of-living agreements will meet with strong opposition from the main trade union organization. Industrialists stated that the July index emphasized the need for the two major parties to reach an agreement on economic matters.

Meanwhile, the Likud and Alignment joint political committee met, and the next session will be on 19 August, Jerusalem radio reported. Disagreements have arisen on two particular issues, the settlements and the peace initiative with Jordan, the radio added.

Maghreb

Morocco and Libya have invited other Maghreb countries to join in the treaty of union signed recently by Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi and King Hassan II, a Moroccan official disclosed in remarks reported by MAP.

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Court Sentences Rebels to Death, Imprisonment

LD112052 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] In its open session today, the DRA Special Revolutionary Court sentenced (Qodus-e Kal) and 14 members of his criminal band to death. Considering their condition and the severity of their crimes, the court also sentenced 21 other people accused of belonging to this band to imprisonment ranging from 5 to 20 years.

As our compatriots know, during its eight open judicial sessions several days ago, which were attended by 4,000 compatriots and citizens of Kabul, the DRA Special Revolutionary Court considered the case of Abdol (Qodus), nicknamed (Qodus-e Kal), son of (Rahmatullah) and an inhabitant of (Dewalimaydan) in Balkh Province, and the rest of the accused belonging to his criminal band, in a completely democratic atmosphere and carefully observed the principle of legality and revolutionary justice. The accused had been provided with the right of defense. The last session of the court was held today to consider the case of these criminals.

(Qodus-e Kal), who lived in Iran for 5 years, on the instruction of Iranian reactionary circles and in collusion with the (Jami et-e Islami) band went to Balkh Province in March 1981 and remained for a while in the service of this band. He then joined the (Harakat-e Islami) band, and later the (Harakat-e Enqlab-e Islami). He is the leader of those criminals whose members, on his instruction or direct participation, committed more than 20 antihumanity and antirevolutionary crimes.

(Qodus-e Kal) and his band had no other work except destruction, terrorism, robbery, plundering public and private property, attacking caravans carrying public and private property, armed resistance against the country's security forces, murder, and savage killings. This is an example of those claiming Islam and Islamism whom the U.S. criminal imperialism and its collaborators support.

Quoting a spokesman of the Special Revolutionary Court, the correspondent of BIA reports that a number of ulema and clergy of Balkh Province regard (Qodus-e Kal) and the members of his band as corrupt on earth and issued judgment on the permissibility of shedding their blood.

Furthermore, in their letters written collectively and privately, the people of Balkh Province regard persons such as (Qodus-e Kal) and his band as the most dangerous enemies to the prosperity, peace, and security of the people of Afghanistan and have asked for severe punishment.

The correspondent of BIA adds that at today's session hundreds of people and witnesses again attended and heard the ruling of the court against these criminals.

In the content of the court's decision, issued in the name of the DRA in accordance with the provisions of law, the crimes of (Qodus-e Kal) and the members of his band were listed on the basis of confession, evidence, witnesses, depositions, and documents of the jury. (Qodus-e Kal) and 14 members of his band were convicted to death in accordance with the provisions of law. In consideration of their conditions and the severity of their committed crimes, 21 other members of this band were sentenced to imprisonment from 5-20 years.

The decision of the DRA Special Revolutionary Court against these convicts is final in accordance with Article 11 of the Special Revolutionary Court law. The death sentence of the convicts, in consideration of Article 58 of the DRA Basic Principles, will be implemented after approval by the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium.

Successful Operations Reported Against Rebels

LD121802 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] In accordance with guidance provided by the 13th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, successful security operations were carried out by our vigilant security forces in various parts of the country in order to completely eliminate the murderous rebel bands. As a result, our noble compatriots have been saved from crimes by the rebels.

Quoting a source from the Paktia security forces, a BAKHTAR correspondent reports that a number of armed rebels were recently crushed as a result of successful operations by the security forces in that province. The security forces seized a quantity of weapons and assorted ammunition and destroyed 12 DSHK's, 2 recoilless guns, 7 mortars, 4 rocket launchers, and several ammunition stores.

In the course of operations in Parwan Province, a number of armed rebels were also crushed and the security forces destroyed 12 weapons and 1 DSHK.

Likewise, a number of rebels were crushed during operations in Baghlan Province. Nine others were captured along with 1 mortar, 6 assorted weapons, and 12 antitank mines. The security forces destroyed eight ammunition stores.

According to another report, a number of armed rebels who were disrupting the peaceful lives of noble compatriots were crushed as a result of successful operations by the heroic security forces in Faryab, Nangarhar, Jowzjan, Ghowr Province, Oarah Bagh District, Kabul Province, Kandahar, Herat, and Kapisa. The security forces also seized 48 assorted weapons and a quantity of ammunition and destroyed a quantity of weapons, ammunition, and several ammunition stores belonging to these criminals.

According to another report, those of our deceived compatriots who had links with the criminal rebel bands as a result of false and hostile propaganda now understand the truth of the revolution. Repenting their past actions and taking advantage of the amnesty decree by the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium and the message of the national session of the social personalities of the tribes and nationalities of the country, these compatriots are surrendering to the country's security forces in groups. Realizing the lofty and human objectives of the PDPA, the April Revolution, and its new development stage, a group of 485 men belonging to the so-called criminal (Jami'at-e Islami) recently

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Palestinian Affairs

The leaders of the Palestinian National Alliance announced at a news conference in Damascus reported by Radio Monte Carlo that the planned convening of the PNC in Algiers is a "serious secessionist step" that will lead to a "historic and permanent split." The National Alliance will hold all those who participate in the PNC session "fully responsible" and will "struggle" against any Arab regime that hosts the session. The National Alliance leaders also announced that they will establish a Palestinian "nationalist salvation front," the details of which will be made clear soon.

Meanwhile, following the Fatah-Democratic Alliance meeting in Algiers to prepare for the PNC session, a DFLP spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio stated that those who fail to join the "national unity march" will become isolated from the Palestinian people and their "active forces."

In a related development, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat chaired a meeting of the committee in Tunis that discussed preparations for the PNC session, INA reported.

Lebanon

President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami met with Syrian presidential envoy Major General Muhammad al-Khuli, and discussed the mountian security plan and security arrangements in the south, Beirut radio reported. Voice of Lebanon radio cited informed sources who stated that the leaders also discussed a summit meeting between Al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz Al-Asad, which is expected to take place this week. Karami stated in remarks cited by Beirut radio that a summit meeting is "likely at any time," possibly at the end of August.

Pakistan-DRA

Afghan forces again shelled Pakistani territory in the Teri Mangal area near Parachinar on 19 August, killing 16 people and wounding 3 others, Karachi radio reported. Pakistan strongly protested the latest attack and warned the Afghan regime that it will be responsible for "all the consequences," the radio added.

In remarks cited by Karachi radio upon his return from a Persian Gulf tour, Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan stated that the violations of Pakistani territory by Afghanistan will not affect the indirect talks in Geneva on the Afghanistan problem. However, he added, Pakistan reserves the right to take "appropriate actions at the appropriate time" for its defense. Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, in remarks cited by the radio's English service, stated that his country has shown "utmost restraint" in regard to the border violations, but there still will be some progress at the Geneva talks if the concerned parties adopt a "forthright attitude." Meanwhile, Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost departed Kabul on 19 August for the third round of the talks in Geneva, Kabul radio reported.

Iran

The Majlis approved the appointments of the new ministers of health, industries, and culture and higher education; and approved the control of the Education and Defense Ministries by the prime minister for 2 months, Tehran radio reported.

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Sarboland-Led Delegation Departs for Romania

LD191810 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] 'Abdol Majid Sarboland, member of the PDPA Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, heading a party and state delegation, left for Romania this morning to take part at the 40th anniversary of the revolution in Romania at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and the Government of Romania.

At Kabul International Airport, Burhan Ghiasi, the minister of higher and vocational education; Mohammad Shah Sorkabi, the minister of irrigation; Sakhi Daneshjo, the deputy minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: deputy head of the PDPA Central Committee International Relations Department; deputy head of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Aleksandr [name indistinct] of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul were present to see the delegation off.

UN Representative on Upcoming Mediation Effort

BK210500 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] The UN secretary general's representative on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, has said that matters relating to noninterference and withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan will be discussed during the next round of indirect talks at Geneva. He was addressing a press conference at the United Nations prior to his departure for Geneva last night.

In Geneva, he will mediate in the indirect talks between Pakistan's foreign minister and the Karmal administration's representative. Mr Cordovez said the accord on an international guarantee about noniterference in Afghanistan will contribute to generating confidence among concerned parties in reaching an agreement on a comprehensive settlement of this problem. He said although the concerned parties are desirous of progress on this issue, the deteriorating situation of international relations is not conducive to talks which are not ordinary negotiations. However, he expressed the hope that progress will be made at the talks and that the entire problem will be resolved, as they are very close to the solution.

Mr Cordovez said although the Soviet Union is not directly involved in these negotiations, it gave clear assurances of its support for the UN peace efforts when he visited Moscow along with the UN secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, last month.

Mr Cordovez said Pakistani and Karmal administration delegations will sit in different rooms and he will visit their rooms in turn to serve as a mediator. He hoped that the new arrangement would help in accelerating UN diplomatic efforts on the Afghanistan problem.

Iran, which is not participating in the talks, will be kept fully informed of the negotiations through its permanent representative in Geneva. The UN secretary general's representative said he is expected to have informal talks with the Pakistani foreign minister and the Karmal administration's representative separately on Thursday, while the formal talks will begin on Friday.

'Counterrevolutionaries' Sentenced for Crimes

LD201649 Kabul Bakhtar in Dari 1245 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Jalalabad, 30 Assad [20 Aug] BAKHTAR — A judicial board of the Special Revolutionary Court that had gone to Nangarhar Province to investigate cases under its jurisdiction in an open session in Jalalabad City sentenced to death one counterrevolutionary element who had been arrested on charges of committing numerous crimes and plundering public property. Three others were sentenced to imprisonment for terms ranging from 2 to 20 years.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that the open session of the court was attended by a large number of ulemas, clergy, members of Islamic Affairs Department and a large number of Jalalabad citizens. At this session, the accused were allowed to defend themselves, in a free and democratic atmosphere, against the charges read out by the prosecutor.

The judicial board of the Special Revolutionary Court, after hearing the prosecutor's case and defense of the accused, and considering the investigation dossier, witnesses' evidence, the criminal circumstances of the accused and their numerous crimes committed in our country under the orders of imperialism and reaction, issued its decision as follows:

Abdollah, son of Amrollah, inhabitant of Fathabad village, (Srarud) District, Nangarhar Province, sentenced to death on charges of evading the sacred military service, joining the enemy, membership in and leading armed bands, criminal actions, plundering public property, and armed resistance against the country's security forces. The court decision is applicable after the approval of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium.

Similarly, three other accused implicated in this case received prison terms ranging from 2 to 20 years after considering investigation papers, their dossier, and the penal code. The decision concerning these three is final.

According to another report, a judicial board of the Special Revolutionary Court that had gone to Lakhman Province to investigate cases under the jurisdiction of that court, recently in an open session sentenced an accused counterrevolutionary, who had confessed to his numerous crimes, to 20 years in prison.

The judicial board of the Special Revolutionary Court at this session spoke on the articles of the penal code and the consolidation of revolutionary legality in the country.

Security Force 'Successful' Attacks Listed

LD201703 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Successful operations by the militant security forces continue intensively in various parts of the country. A number of armed rebels, who are terrorizing and plundering our compatriots on the orders of their imperialist masters, were crushed,

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REBELS SURRENDER IN SEVERAL PROVINCES

LD211638 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] In the course of successful operations carried out recently by the brave security forces in Herat, Paktika, Badakhshan, Vardak, and Nangarhar Provinces, a number of armed rebels who were disrupting the peaceful lives of the inhabitants of these provinces on the orders of their American masters, were crushed. The security forces seized assorted weapons and ammunition and destroyed arms and ammunitions stores.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Herat Province that 50 deceived persons who, as a result of the counterrevolution's propaganda, stood in the ranks of the criminal rebels, realized the truth of the SAWR revolution and the lofty objectives of the PDPA, took advantage of the amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, and surrendered themselves to the security authorities. They also surrendered their arms and pledged to defend the gains of the SAWR revolution to the last breath and to struggle for the construction of a new and just society.

CLANDESTINE REPORTS MUJAHIDIN ATTACKS

GF211736 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Pashto 1700 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Summary] Reports received from mujahidin sources indicate that the Soviet occupationists and the Karmal puppet regime soldiers during the past 2 weeks have increased their activity in the southern regions of Afghanistan. Our Muslim mujahidin attacked the enemy in Paktia and Lowgar Provinces and along the Lowgar-Kabul highway, inflicting heavy losses of life.

According to our correspondent, the Soviet-Karmal soldiers have been on the defensive in Paktia and Lowgar Provinces. Our mujahidin have destroyed a Soviet camp in Paktia and killed 200 soldiers.

KABUL SEES DISPUTE AMONG REBEL BANDS

LD212222 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Aug 84

[By BAKHTAR political commentator]

[Excerpts] Disagreements and killings among the counterrevolutionary bands are becoming even more the true characteristics of relations among the bands. Despite the hysterical efforts of reaction and imperialism, which spend millions of dollars and use promises, enticement, and intimidation to unify the counterrevolutionary bands of Afghanistan, the deadly disagreements of the various counterrevolutionary bands are daily spreading in a bloody manner.

No one can better and more clearly expose the evil and treacherous nature of the counterrevolutionary bands than the ringleaders of the counterrevolutionary bands, as they know each other very well, because they are fed in the same stable and they are aware of each other's treachery and criminal secrets.

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Lebanon

Army Chief of Staff Dies — Beirut radio reported that Army Chief of Staff Major General Nadim al-Hakim and several other officers were killed when their helicopter crashed.

Tripoli Clashes — "Ferocious" clashes continued in Tripoli, raising the number of casualties during the past 2 days to "well over 100" dead and 250 injured, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. In an effort to halt the violence, an Islamic meeting chaired by the mufti of Lebanon cabled an appeal to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to "intervene directly and quickly" in order to save Tripoli, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon revealed.

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and Minister Nabih Birri met prior to a full Cabinet session and they discussed the situation in the south and the security plan for the Mountain, Beirut radio reported. The Cabinet session, attended by all ministers except Walid Junblatt, who could not reach the B'abda location, included a discussion on the south, the radio added.

In a statement broadcast by the radio following the session, Karami announced that the Government will submit a complaint to the UN Security Council on Israel's subjugation of the south's inhabitants to the "ugliest forms of occupation." Responding to charges of Israel's isolating the south from the rest of the country, an Israeli Government official stated in an interview on Jerusalem radio that this claim is part of the "trumped up charges" being prepared for the UN complaint. He affirmed that the bridge across the Al-Awwali River will be opened on 23 August, although the radio later reported that the opening will be delayed until 24 August.

Libya

Ship Detained by France — The French Ministry of External relations announced that the seizure of the Libyan vessel *Ghat* in Marseilles is a "purely commercial affair," Paris radio reported. The ship, which is suspected of having laid mines in the Red Sea, was searched on 18 August by customs officials but no irregularities were found, the radio added.

Palestinian Affairs

The 17th PNC session will be held in Algiers on 23 September, according to a Palestinian source in Tunis cited by INA.

Iran

There was a "severe explosion" in downtown Tehran on 23 August that resulted in at least 15 dead and 300 injured, IRNA reported.

Afghanistan

Pakistani Protest — The Government "categorically" rejected Pakistan's protest against DRA violations of Pakistani territory, terming the allegations "poisonous accusations" and "groundless and hostile claims" meant to hide Pakistan's transformation into a "springboard for aggression" against Afghanistan, according to a Foreign Ministry note cited by BAKHTAR. The note stated that Pakistani authorities will be held responsible for the "unpleasant consequences" of their "aggressive policy and the spreading of false and poisonous propaganda."

Dost in USSR — Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost stopped over in Moscow 19-22 August on his way to UN-sponsored talks in Geneva, TASS reported. During his visit, he met with USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Korniyenko.

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Pakistani Claim of Aggression Rejected

LD221537 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1245 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, 22 Aug (BAKHTAR) — The charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1045 today and handed a note by the official responsible for the First Political Branch of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in connection with recent claims by Pakistan concerning the so-called ground and air violation of that country's territory by the DRA.

The note reads as follows:

The Islamabad authorities, followed by the media of the imperialist countries, recently began another wave of hostile propaganda claiming that the DRA Armed Forces violated Pakistani territory on land and in the air.

The relevant authorities of the DRA declare that no ground or air violation has been made against the territory of Pakistan. They consider Pakistan's claims to be lies and reject them categorically.

At a time when the date of the talks in Geneva and the meeting of the 39th session of the UN General Assembly is getting closer, the Pakistani authorites in cooperation with the (?tricks) of American and Chinese circles, have organized ludicrous displays in order to gain propaganda benefits and are trying very hard by means of this slanderous and poisonous propaganda to distract world public opinion and the opinion of the people of Pakistan from the facts, to create obstacles in the way of talks in Geneva, and to cause hostility and tension in the process of the UN 39th General Assembly.

The authorities in Pakistan know very well that the repetition of these scenarios and the fabrication of such groundless and hostile claims have become outdated and have lost their effect.

By spreading such untrue allegations, Pakistan is trying to cover its hostile activities which have transformed Pakistan into a springboard for aggression and a base for training Afghan counterrevolutionary elements for the purpose of aggression against the authority of Afghanistan by subversive mercenaries.

While rejecting Pakistan's recent and baseless claims, the DRA again declared that the DRA is a peace-loving country.

It has never encroached upon other countries, but is itself the victim of an undeclared war from the soil of Pakistan. These bandit-like aggressions have continued against our country for nearly 6 years.

The DRA hopes that, instead of spreading such poisonous accusations, the Pakistani military authorities will put an end to interference in the internal affairs of the DRA and will not endanger the peace and stability of the region.

Otherwise, responsibility for the unpleasant consequences of this aggressive policy and the spreading of false and poisonous propaganda will rest on the shoulders of the Pakistani authorities.

Reportage on Mujahidin Anti-Soviet Activities

Soviet Camp Destroyed

GF211736 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Pashto 1700 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Summary] Reports received from mujahidin sources indicate that the Soviet occupationists and the Karmal puppet regime soldiers during the past 2 weeks have increased their activity in the southern regions of Afghanistan. Our Muslim mujahidin attacked the enemy in Paktia and Lowgar Provinces and along the Lowgar-Kabul highway, inflicting heavy loss of life.

According to our correspondent, the Soviet-Karmal soldiers have been on the defensive in Paktia and Lowgar Provinces. Our mujahidin have destroyed a Soviet camp in Paktia and killed 200 soldiers.

Soviet Transport Plane Downed

GF221800 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Pashto 1700 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] According to Muslim mujahidin sources, a Muslim officer of the Karmal regime who has realized the true nature of the Karmal regime and who was serving in the Qandahar division, has defected to the mujahidin during July after he had killed several Soviet and puppet soldiers. The report said that among the persons he killed were five officers of the enemy forces.

Reports received from Mazar-e Sharif indicate that the Muslim mujahidin last Wednesday [15 August] downed one Soviet transport aircraft flying war material to Soviet and puppet regime mercenaries over the Behram Chah pass in (Chahar Sin) District of Mazar-e Sharif Province. All the crew were killed.

Our Muslim mujahidin in the Deh Sabz area inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy. The details of the enemy losses have not been received as yet.

The Muslim mujahidin in the Kabul Gate area of Qandahar attacked a car belonging to the agriculture minister of the Karmal regime and killed several guards in the car.

According to more reports received, the Muslim mujahidin attacked an enemy convoy in the Ahangaran region of Badakhshan Province. The convoy was going toward Badakhshan when in an attack lasting 5 hours the mujahidin destroyed 12 enemy trucks carrying food supplies and petrol, along with 6 other armored vehicles. As a result of this attack, the mujahidin captured much war material and supplies. The mujahidin in another attack in the Parkha region destroyed one enemy tank.

Attack Spurs USSR 'Retaliation'

LD222059 Riyadh SPA in English 1904 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] London, Aug 22, SPA — More than 20 Soviet-Karmal troops were killed and three tanks and seven trucks destroyed when Afghan mujahidin attacked a Soviet-Karmal military envoy when it was passing through Mianeh town in Qandahar

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Lebanon

Chief of Staff's Death — Reacting to the death of Army Chief of Staff Major General Nadim al-Hakim, the highest-ranking Druze militaryman, in a helicopter crash, Druze political leader Walid Junblatt stated in remarks reported by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio that it increases "our reservations about the role of the military establishment" and that investigations will not be "convincing." Al-Hakim's death will increase the determination to "march" from the "accursed ruling party," Junblatt added. Regarding the crash, "security reports said there was no collision and witnesses said the helicopter was burning before it crashed, according to Voice of the Mountain. The radio reported that the funeral for Al-Hakim and two others will be on 25 August.

Political Developments — Junblatt met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus and discussed the security plan for the mountain, Beirut radio reported. Junblatt then returned to Beirut after canceling his visit to Romania, Radio Monte Carlo added. Khaddam also received in separate meetings an Islamic delegation from Tripoli and the leader of the Democratic Arab Party, and discussed with them plans for a cease-fire in the city, the radio disclosed. After departing Damascus, the Islamic delegation met with Prime Minister Rashid Karami in Beirut to inform him of their talks, Beirut radio reported. Karami also received Saudi mediator Rafiz al-Hariri, and they discussed political and security developments as well as plans for reconstructing areas in Beirut, the radio noted.

Bridge to South — the Batir ash-Shuf Bridge across the Al-Awwali River was reopened after being closed since 19 August, Jerusalem radio reported. Travelers may now travel across only as pedestrians or via organized public transportation.

Libya-Syria

Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi and Revolution Command Council member Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Vice President Khaddam following the Syrian delegation's arrival in Banghazi, SANA reported. In remarks upon his arrival cited by the agency, Al-Asad stated that the visit is in the context of exchanging views on bilateral relations and pan-Arab issues.

Egypt

Ambassador to the USSR Salah Basyuni departed Cairo to take up his new post in Moscow, Cairo radio reported.

Gulf Conflict

The Iraqi Air Force "effectively hit" a "large maritime target" south of Khark Island on 24 August, according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited by Baghdad radio. Lloyd's of London identified the vessel as the Cypriot tanker *Amethystos* and reported that a "serious" fire had broken out on board, AFP added. The Iraqi Air Force had earlier "accurately and effectively hit" a "large maritime target" south of Khark Island at 1040 GMT on 23 August, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. Monitored Iranian sources have not reported either attack, although Bushehr radio had announced a "red alert condition" for Bushehr at 1035 GMT on 23 August because of the "danger of an air attack."

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Reportage on Hijacking of Indian Airlines Flight

Plane Ordered to Pakistan

BK240413 Hong Kong AFP in English 0411 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 24 (AFP) — An Indian Airlines plane on a domestic flight from Chandigarh to Srinagar in Kashmir was hijacked today, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA news agency said.

The identity of the hijackers was not immediately known, PTI said.

The pilot was ordered to fly to Pakistan and was now above Lahore, near the Indian border, the agency added.

Pakistani authorities have so far refused permission for the plane to land, PTI said.

The plane was on a scheduled flight from Chandigarh, capital of the Sikh-dominated Punjab State, to Srinagar, capital of Kashmir State.

Government Accuses 'Sikh Militants'

BK240644 Hong Kong AFP in English 0621 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 24 (AFP) — Sikh militants were responsible for hijacking an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 today to Lahore, Pakistan, and have demanded to be taken to the United States, the government told Parliament here.

Federal minister for civil aviation, Khursheed Alam Khan, told Parliament that the pilot, Captain V.K. Mehta and co-pilot were both unconscious, but did not say what had happened to them.

He said the hijackers had allowed Pakistani authorities to provide medical aid for them. It was not clear what form this would take.

The minister said the hijackers had set demands which included the setting up of an independent Khalistan, Sikh homeland.

They had also asked for the plane to be refuelled to take them to the United States. The minister said there were 86 passengers and six crew on board.

He said he understood the aircraft doors were still closed.

Extradition of Hijackers Demanded

BK240742 Hong Kong AFP in English 0728 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 24 (AFP) — Twelve Sikh militants hijacked an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 to Lahore, Pakistan, early today and demanded to be flown to the United States, Federal Civil Aviation Minister Khursheed Alam Khan told Parliament.

The hijackers had threatened to kill the 86 passengers on board one by one if their demands for the plane to be refuelled were not met within half an hour, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported in a dispatch from Islamabad.

The plane was hijacked while on a routine domestic flight from New Delhi to Srinagar, capital of Kashmir, with a brief stopover in Chandigarh, capital of Sikh-dominated Punjab, Mr. Alam Khan told Parliament. He said the plane's pilot, Captain V. K. Mehta, and co-pilot were unconscious but added that the hijackers had allowed medical aid to be brought to them. He did not say what had happened to them.

He confirmed there were 86 passengers and six crew on board, correcting earlier information which said there were 112 people on the plane.

Mr. Alam Khan said the hijackers were also calling for an independent Sikh homeland — Khalistan.

The government said it had urged the Pakistani Government not to allow the Boeing to leave Lahore for the United States.

Pakistan authorities earlier told India that they had initially refused permission for the plane to land, but had later agreed after it became clear it was running short of fuel.

On July 5 there was a similar hijacking by Sikh militants of an India Airlines' Airbus to Lahore. The passengers were freed and the plane returned to India after Pakistani authorities persuaded the militants to surrender.

Pakistan said the hijackers would be tried under Pakistani law. India has demanded their extradition.

The Punjab has been the scene of a Sikh autonomy campaign for more than two years with militants demanding secession from India.

Minister on Hijackers' Threats

BK240747 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] An Indian Airlines plane with 86 passengers and a crew of 6 has been hijacked to Lahore. The flight, No. IC-421, was on a flight from Delhi to Srinagar via Chandigarh and Jammu. The plane — a Boeing 737 — was taken over by the hijackers shortly after it took off from Chandigarh at 0725 [0155 GMT]. The plane landed at Lahore Airport at about 0950 [0420 GMT]. The identity and the number of hijackers is not immediately known. Earlier, agency reports said that the hijackers raised pro-Khalistan slogans.

The minister for civil aviation, Mr Khursheed Alam Khan, told the Lok Sabha that the hijackers are demanding immediate refuelling of the plane for being flown to the United States.

They have threatened to kill a passenger every 15 minutes if their demands are not met. They have also threatened to blow up the plane.

The minister said that after the incident the pilot and the copilot lost consciousness. Mr Khurshid Alam Khan said that he would make a detailed statement in the afternoon.

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Lebanon

Security Situation — Regarding the fire "demonstrators" had set to the Saudi Consulate in Beirut, the Saudi representation in Lebanon issued a statement, transmitted by SPA, in which Saudi Arabia "strongly" denounced the attack and affirmed that the incident will not affect the "sound line" of Saudi policy. The statement added that Saudi King Fahd had requested Saudi officials in Lebanon to ensure the comfort of pilgrims before the attack occurred. In a related development, King Fahd ordered Saudi authorities on 24 August to grant entry visas to 6,000 Lebanese pilgrims who wish to travel to Saudi Arabia, Beirut radio noted.

Al-Hakim Funeral — In a speech broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio at the funeral of Major General Nadim al-Hakim, killed in a helicopter crash on 23 August, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt claimed that the "martyrdom" was an attempt to keep nationalist influence out of the military establishment. He asserted that he will not accept anything short of "arming the nationalist brigades," and that he will not accept the presence of the Lebanese Army in the "nationalist areas" of the mountain. Linking the expansion of the security agreements to the mountain area with the liberation of the south are "mean and despicable attempts" by the "rancorous" regime, a regime to which he does not belong and will not belong, he added. Meanwhile, the committee investigating the helicopter crash has confirmed that the incident occurred because of poor visibility in fog rather than an explosion on board, according to committee sources cited by the Voice of Lebanon.

Pakistan-DRA

The third round of UN-sponsored indirect talks on the Afghanistan problem began in Geneva on 24 August, Karachi radio noted. UN Under Secretary General Diego Cordovez was scheduled to meet with Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan after meeting with Ali Khan's Afghan counterpart Shah Mohammad Dost. Referring to the recent claims of territorial violations, Cordovez stated that it will be "regrettable" if the "present difficult situation" in the region is allowed to influence the diplomatic process, the radio added.

Hijacked Plane

The seven Sikhs who hijacked an Indian plane on 24 August surrendered in Dubai on 25 August, Dubayy radio reported citing WAM. The hijackers have been granted political asylum in the UAE for 1 week while awaiting their request for U.S. asylum, the radio added. However, according to Muscat radio, the UAE denied that it has granted temporary political asylum to the hijackers.

Maghreb

Syrian President's Visit — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi in Algiers on 25 and 26 August and discussed "bilateral and general Arab issues" during a "working and friendly visit," Algiers radio reported. The Syrian delegation had earlier visited Libyan leaders 23-25 August, SANA added. While in Algiers, the Syrian delegation also met with SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz during his stopover on 26 August, Algiers radio noted.

Libya-Tunisia — Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi and his Libyan counterpart 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki signed a cooperation protocol in Tunis on 24 August following talks held in a "fraternal atmosphere" with a "constructive and positive spirit," Tunis radio reported. In a related development, Essebsi disclosed that Libya has requested to join the agreement of fraternity and accord that was signed between Tunisia, Algeria, and Mauritania, MENA noted. Essebsi also affirmed that Tunisia's agreement with the other two states does not indicate that Tunisia is against the Libya-Morocco accord, but rather that Tunisia "blesses" it.

Red Sea Mines

All ships intending to cross the Suez Canal must now submit a detailed manifest of their cargo 48 hours before entering the canal, MENA reported citing the Canal Authority's chairman. He added that penalties will be imposed on ships carrying explosives which are discovered before they cross the canal, and vessels discovered to be carrying "undeclared dangerous materials" inside the canal will be banned from further passage for 2 years. He disclosed that inspections have been carried out on all "suspect ships" and that no dangerous materials have been discovered. He affirmed that the inspections are not aimed at any particular ship or nationality.

Concerning these new measures, Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated in his Friday sermon broadcast by Tehran radio's Arabic service that Egypt "treacherously detained" two Iranian ships on the "pretext" of searching them. He stated that Egypt must be warned so it will not again take stands in the future that aid Western imperialism's exploitation of the "terrible and artificially provoked events" in the area. He also accused the "oppressors" of exploiting a "remark by an irresponsible person" that was "accidently broadcast" by the radio.

Meanwhile, the French minesweepers off the Saudi coast ended their mission on 26 August after failing to find any mines, Paris radio noted.

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No 'Substantial' Response to Strike Call

BK251613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Life has remained normal in most parts of the country today despite the protest day called by the opposition parties against the dismissal of the N.T. Rama Rao ministry in Andhra Pradesh. There has been no substantial response to the call. In the capital, life was normal. Offices, shops and establishments functioned as usual.

In Andhra Pradesh, no untoward incident has been reported. Our Hyderabad correspondent reports that shops, establishments, banks, and central and state government offices functioned normally. Some trains were withdrawn by the railway authority as a precautionary measure.

In Karnataka, the day was declared a holiday by the state government and it passed off peacefully. Police protection was given to some central government establishments. Our Bangalore correspondent reports that a workers procession was taken to Raj Bhavan [governor house] where they submitted a memorandum. Our Hubli correspondent reports that running of trains was normal, according to South-Central Railway authorities, though a few passenger trains were delayed. In Tamil Nadu also, the state government declared a public holiday as a precautionary measure. The day passed off peacefully. However, several arrests were made of demonstrators who tried to picket in front of central government offices.

In Kerala, shops remained closed in several districts. Obstructions were placed on the rail track at several places. Consequently, some trains were delayed.

In West Bengal, a bundh [strike] was observed mainly in support of several demands of the state government. The chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, said the bundh was complete. According to agency reports, about 1,500 Congress-I supporters courted arrest at three different places of Calcutta to protest against what they described as politically motivated bundh.

AFP: Strike Activities, Arrests

BK251348 Hong Kong AFP in English 1320 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Aug 25 (AFP) — About 10,000 people were arrested when they tried to picket government offices in Madras today during a nationwide strike to protest the dismissal of the Andhra Pradesh chief minister, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

Several people were injured and more than 10,000 rail passengers stranded in Marxist-ruled West Bengal state during the protest, PTI said.

There were demonstrations and violence in other parts of India as well, though many areas appeared calm, PTI said.

PTI quoted West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu as saying that the strike in his state was "a total success." The one-day strike, intended to be nationwide, was called by opposition parties who say the federal government was behind the sacking on August 16 of N.T. Rama Rao by Andhra Pradesh Governor Ram Lal.

In Hyderabad, capital of Andhra Pradesh, about 150 demonstrators, including two opposition Bharativa Janata Party state legislators, were arrested near the government secretariat when they held a pro-Rama Rao demonstration, PTI said.

Supporters and opponents of the strike clashed in the Hooghly and 24-Parganas districts of West Bengal. Demonstrators there also blocked trains by squatting on the tracks, PTI said.

Among the some 10,000 who were arrested there were two members of the Indian Parliament and 10 State Assembly members belonging to the opposition Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) Party, PTI said.

In Tripura, another Marxist-ruled state in the northeast, about 8,000 people marched through Agartala, the capital. There was no violence, PTI said.

A curfew was imposed today in Srinagar, the capital of Kashmir, and parts of the city were patrolled by police and para-military units, PTI said.

In Kerala, where a Congress-led coalition is in power, shops were closed and private buses and taxis were off the roads in most parts of the state. A car was burned near a temple in central Kerala, PTI said.

In New Delhi, about 20 opposition supporters carrying anti-government placards gathered near the Parliament building to march to the presidential palace. They dispersed peacefully when challenged by the police.

In the two houses of parliament opposition members walked out for the fourth time since the Andhra Pradesh crisis erupted last week, after they failed to persuade the government to make a statement on the issue.

Mr. Lal and the head of the Congress Party in Andhra Pradesh, Madan Mohan, resigned yesterday. Observers said Mr. Lal's resignation was not surprising, though he continued to defend his dismissal of Mr. Rama Rao, in view of the crisis that had arisen. Congress Party sources here said that when Mr. Rama Rao was dismissed, Mr. Mohan had announced his support for the new state chief minister, Narendra Bhaskara Rao, without consulting Mrs. Gandhi.

New Governor Appointed for Andhra Pradesh

BK270440 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Mr Shankar Dayal Sharma has been appointed the new governor of Andhra Pradesh. He replaces Mr Ram Lal who has resigned. A Rashtrapati Bhavan [President's House] communique said that the appointment will take effect from the date he assumes office. It said the president has accepted the resignation of Mr Ram Lal.

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Persian Gulf

Plane Hijacking — A passenger plane in flight between the UAE and Iran was hijacked on 28 August and forced to land in Iraq after being refused permission to land in Kuwait, KUNA reported. The plane was carrying 206 passengers and crew, the agency noted.

The spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry, in an interview with a Tehran radio correspondent, condemned the hijacking as an "inhuman and overt act of air piracy," charging that "fighter planes of the Iraqi regime" forced the plane to land at a military airport in Iraq.

Attack on Tanker — The Panamanian tanker *Cleo 1* was attacked near Qatar by "unidentified aircraft" believed to be Iranian, KUNA reported citing Abu Dhabi navigational sources. In citing the KUNA report, Baghdad radio stated that an Iranian aircraft had attacked the vessel, and recalled that at least four other tankers had been attacked by Iranian planes in the same area. On the other hand, Tehran radio recalled that a Cypriot tanker had recently been attacked by Iraqi planes. Concerning the latest incident, the radio cited news agency reports that a tanker was hit "by a missile" near Qatar.

Lebanon

Security Situation — The 6th Brigade ended a clash in Beirut between Progressive Socialist Party and Arab Socialist Union gunmen, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Meanwhile, PSP forces and the Lebanese Army exchanged small-arms fire along the front lines in the Mountain area, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon noted. In Tripoli, "tension" prevailed along the cease-fire lines despite an agreement reached to deploy the Army to maintain security with the support of Syrian forces, according to Beirut radio.

In a government statement cited by SPA concerning the attack on the Saudi Consulate in Beirut on 24 August, Saudi Arabia expressed "pain and regret" that the Lebanese authorities did not prevent the "criminal, abominable act," even though they had prior knowledge about it.

Junblatt Interview — PSP leader Walid Junblatt stated in an interview with a U.S. publication cited by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio that removing the Israelis from the south "means speaking to the Israelis, one way or another," and that Syria should sponsor such steps. He also reiterated that he will not attend Cabinet sessions in B'abda, although he might attend sessions if they were held in Bikfayya.

Libya-Syria

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus after meeting again in Banghazi with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Tripoli radio reported. Al-Asad arrived in Banghazi on 26 August following talks in Algeria, Damascus radio noted.

In a related development, Syrian Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah left for Tripoli at the head of a Ba'th Party and National Progressive Front delegation, which will participate in the 1 September revolution anniversary celebrations, Damascus television reported.

Algeria-SDAR-Mauritania

Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid received SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz and his delegation, Algiers radio reported. Bendjedid also received a Mauritanian envoy who delivered a personal message from Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, the radio added.

Jordan-Palestinian Affairs

The joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee held its second session in Amman, Amman radio reported. The Jordanian delegation was led by Deputy Prime Minister Sulayman 'Arar, and the Palestinian side was led by Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander of the Palestinian revolution forces. The committee discussed strengthening "steadfastness" in the "occupied land," the radio added.

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Soviets Reinforce Government Troops in Paktia

BK281240 Hong Kong AFP in English 1224 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 28 (AFP) — Thousands of Soviet troops have been sent to reinforce besieged Afghan Government troops in the Paktia Province bordering Pakistan, Western diplomatic sources here said today. They said from 12,000 to 14,000 Soviet troops had been sent to the region which constitutes the main passageway for Moslem rebels travelling from Pakistan to central and northern Afghanistan. Afghan observers in the Pakistani border town of Peshawar said the Soviets might attempt to shut down roads across the border, a move that would represent a serious setback to logistical operations by the resistance.

Western diplomats said the Soviet troops appeared for the moment to be stationed in the garrison at Gardez, the capital of Paktia Province, and had not yet been ordered to rescue Afghan Government troops surrounded by rebels in posts like Ali Khel, 15 kms (12 miles) from the border. Radio Kabul last week said the siege of Ali Khel had been broken and that members of the local tribe, the Mangals, had crossed over to the government's side. Sources close to the resistance confirmed that Mangals had been organized into militia to patrol the border.

Diplomats said the recent bombing by Afghan aviation of Pakistani territory was linked to the situation in Paktia. Western military sources said Afghanistan appeared to have been given the green light from Moscow to bomb resistance positions along and inside the Pakistan border. There have been no new reports by Pakistan of bombings since Kabul announced the end of the Ali Khel siege.

Diplomats also said that some 50 transport helicopters and helicopter gunships left Kabul Airport last week for Ghazni, the capital of Logar Province, some 80 kms (50 miles) west of Gardez. The reason for the transfer was not immediately clear. The diplomats reported a mortar attack around the Soviet Embassy in Kabul last week in which more than 20 people, including six Soviets, are believed to have died.

General Sadeqi Praises Paktia Tribesmen

LD241832 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 Aug 84

[Text] Greetings and best wishes from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, were conveyed yesterday afternoon to the representatives, elders, and chiefs of the Mangal tribe by Brigadier General Mohammad Yasin Sadeqi, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the Army's political affairs.

Brig Gen Sadeqi attended the jerga of elders, chiefs and representatives of Khejo clan, Mangal tribe, which was held in Ahmad Khel District, Paktia Province, and spoke there about the policy of the party and government in relation to the country's tribes and nationalities and their role in safeguarding the country's borders.

At this jerga, a series of proposals were put forward by a number of the chiefs and representatives of Mangal tribe concerning their cooperation in safeguarding the security of their regions andwere appreciated by Brig Gen Sadeqi.

Haji Solayman Khel, representative of Khejo clan of Mangal tribe, then spoke and gave an assurance of the Mangal tribe's all-round cooperation in crushing the counterrevolutionary bands and further restoring security in their regions.

Brig Gen Yasin Sadeqi also met the officers and men of Paktia force in Ahmad Khel District and conveyed to them the best wishes and greetings of Babrak Karmal.

At this meeting, the head of the Army's political affairs expressed appreciation for the heroism and devotion of the officers and men in crushing the counterrevolutionary bands in Jaji and Ali Khel regions and highly praised the results of their combat activities in the restoration of security in Ali Khel and Ahmad Khel Districts of Paktia Province.

At the end of this meeting, commendation certificates and gifts were distributed among those officers and men who showed extra worthiness in combat activities.

According to another report, Brig Gen Yasin Sadeqi, this morning inspected military posts of the officers and men in Marai Gorge of Ahmad Khel District, Paktia Province, and spoke with them.

The head of the Army's political affairs at midday today also met the officers of the headquarters of Gardez garrison and recalled with appreciation their part in clearing Ahmad Khel and Ali Khel Districts of Paktia Province.

Karmal Congratulates Mongolia's Batmonh

LD270535 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 26, BAKHTAR: Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the RC [Revolutionary Council] of the DRA has sent a congratulatory message to Jambyn Batmonh on the occasion of his election as the general secretary of the CC of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP), to Ulan Bator.

"You Dear Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, the message said, takes over this post at a time when the world situation, due to the war-mongering policy of imperialist circles, at the head the Reagan Administration, has been seriously deteriorated. Thus, it requires the common endeavours of all the noble inhabitants of our planet to defend the cause of world peace and security."

In the message pleasure has been expressed that the fraternal relations between the PDPA and the MPRP as well as between the two states based on the principles of proletarian internationalism, have grown to a high level of fraternal friendship.

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Lebanon

Israeli Air Raid — Israeli Air Force planes attacked a "terrorist base" in Al-Biqa' Valley and scored "accurate hits," according to the IDF spokesman cited by IDF radio. The base served as "headquarters and jumping-off point for terrorists" led by Sa'id Musa Muragha, the spokesman added. "More than 100" persons were killed or wounded in the attack on the PFLP and Fatah dissident "security center," Voice of Lebanon noted. However, a military spokesman of Muragha's Al-'Asifah forces cited by Radio Monte Carlo stated that only four Lebanese civilians were killed during the raid, which was aimed against a farm house.

Security Situation — Minister Nabih Birri, the Amal movement leader, directed his group's gunmen to withdraw from the streets following clashes with the Al-Murabitun faction in Beirut, Beirut radio reported. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon noted that "violent clashes" had occurred between the two groups. Meanwhile, artillery shelling continued along the front lines in the Beirut-Mountain area, according to the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio and Radio Free Lebanon. In Tripoli, "fierce clashes" between rival Muslim groups resulted in more casualties and "grave damage" to property, Radio Free Lebanon reported.

In a separate development, following a meeting with Ministers Birri and Walid Junblatt, Prime Minister Rashid Karami disclosed that the Cabinet will meet in Bikfayya on 29 August, Beirut radio reported. Karami added that "all questions are up for discussion" at the forthcoming session.

Plane Hijacking

The Iranian airliner that was hijacked over Iran during a Dubayy-Shiraz-Tehran run was diverted by the hijackers intoKuwaiti airspace and then interceptedby Iraqi fighter planes, according to Tehran radio citing IRNA. The Iraqi planes forced the airliner to fly to Iraq in a "preset plan," the radio added. Kuwaiti air control sources cited by AFP confirmed the interception by Iraqi planes. However, an Iraqi Government official cited by INA denied that the airliner was forced to land in Iraq, and a Kuwaiti Government official cited by KUNA denied that Iraqimilitary aircraft had entered Kuwaiti airspace during the flight of the hijacked plane. All of the passengers and crew landed in Iraq and were taken by the authorities to Baghdad, INA reported. At a news conference reported by the agency, the two hijackers explained their actions as a result of the "oppression under which the Iranian people are living" and as an attempt to "struggle against the Khomeyni regime." Tehran radio reports that Iraq has given political asylum to the hijackers.

Maghreb

Syrian Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah arrived in Tripoli to attend the 1 September Revolution anniversary celebrations, JANA reported. In a statement released to the agency, Mashariqah confirmed the "depth of the brotherhood ties" between Syria and Libya. In a separate development, the Libyan General People's Congress will meet on 31 August to "discuss and ratify" the Arab-African federation between Libya and Morocco, according to a Congress statement broadcast by Tripoli radio. Referring to such agreements, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid maintained in a speech on 27 August reported by APS that Algeria "rejects" the building of Greater Arab Maghreb on the basis of "tactical objectives and axes." Concerning the Sahara problem, Bendjedid noted that it can only be solved through the framework of the resolutions of the United Nations, Nonaligned Movement, or OAU.

USSR Diplomacy

Kuwait — Kuwait and the Soviet Union are finalizing details of a bilateral trade agreement, KUNA reported citing a Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry official.

Syria — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received USSR Ambassador Vladimir Yukhin at the end of his tour in Damascus, Damascus radio reported.

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Defense Minister Visits Ghowr Province

LD281902 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] Warm greetings and best wishes were conveyed from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council to the working people of Chaghcharan this morning at a meeting by Lieutenant General 'Abdol Qader, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the minister of national defense which were received with warmth.

The minister of defense, accompanied by Brigadier Mohammad Yasin Sadeqi, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of political affairs of the Army, spoke about the great aims of the April Revolution and the progressive policy of our revolutionary party and state and asked for further cooperation of the people in realizing the aspirations of the revolution to maintain a prosperous life for the toilers, the prosperity of the homeland, and the construction of a blossoming, new society in revolutionary Afghanistan.

In reply, Mawlawi Gol Mohammad, chairman of the council of ulema and religious leaders and a number of others, on behalf of the people of that province, while expressing thanks and gratitude at the fruitful and progressive measures of the state, promised every readiness for defending and safeguarding the gains of the April Revolution.

According to another report, the minister of defense and head of the Army political affairs today took part at a meeting of the joint headquarters of the Ghowr Province. After the basic report was presented to the meeting, discussion was held on the implementation of the complex plan for 1363 in that province and necessary measures were adopted. In conclusion, the minister of defense assessed the work of the meeting and specified the missions and historical responsibilities of the participants to realize the aims of the revolutionary party and state in the interest of the million masses of the country.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Chaghcharan, Ghowr Province, that the minister of defense and head of the Army political affairs today inspected the units and companies of the Sarandoy command and operational battalion of that province. During a meeting with the officers and men of these units, the minister of defense drew their attention to their great responsibilities in defending the homeland and revolution.

Tribal Assembly Pledges Allegiance to PDPA

LD251758 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Aug 84

[Text] Brigadier General Mohammad Nabi 'Azemi, assistant to the minister of national defense, took part in a 700-man tribal assembly of Minor Ahmad Khel. Brig Gen Mohammad Afzal Lodin, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and commander of No 3 Army Corps of Paktia Province; the secretary of the provincial party committee; the governor of Paktia Province; and a member of the headquarters of Minor Ahmad Khel also attended.

At the start of tribal assembly and after the recitation of a few verses from the Holy Koran, the assistant to the minister of national defense, the governor of Paktia, and the commander of No 3 Army Corps, spoke in detail about the consolidation of the government authority and restoration of security in the country's villages and hamlets and the complete elimination of the counter-revolutionary bands.

Haji Kandahari Momayiz, Haji Khandi, and some other persons then spoke on behalf of the working people of Minor Ahamd Khel and displayed full readiness for the consolidation of government authorities, for the restoration of security and for crushing of the rebels — these enemies of the people's well-being and prosperity.

At the end of tribal assembly, No 3 tribal regiment was set up and 1,000 patriotic youth of Minor Ahmad Khel were organized in it. They took weapons with revolutionary fervor and chanting the slogans, "Long Live the PDPA; Long Live Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and President of the DRA Revolutionary Council; Death to the Rebels, These Servants of Imperialism and Reaction," they expressed their preparedness for the consolidation of the government authority and intensification of struggle against the counter-revolutionaries.

Reportage on Government Antirebel Actions

Antirebel Process 'Gaining Momentum'

LD261011 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0422 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 25, BAKHTAR — The process of mopping-out the bandits and counter-revolutionaries who have been exported from beyond the frontiers of the DRA by the war-mongering imperialist forces, the U.S. imperialism at the forefront, is gaining momentum throughout Afghanistan. As a result of the successful operations carried out by the Armed Forces of the DRA in Sevak country of Kabul Province and in Qandahar, Paktia, Balkh, Parvan, Konduz, Ghazni and Konarha Provinces, a number of fugitives were wiped out. Moreover, the Armed Forces of the DRA, with the cooperation of the residents of the concerned areas, destroyed the hide-outs of the bandits and captured various lethal weapons, such as mortars, recoilless field guns, hand grenades, anti-tank and anti-personnel mines, etc.

Kabul Reports Security Operations

LD261732 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 26 Aug 84

[Text] According to a source in the country's security forces, 45 murderers belonging to the Jami'at band, including their leader Abdurrauf, were crushed and 23 others belonging to the Gulbuddin criminal band, including their leader Ahmad Sakhi, were wounded as the result of successful operations by security forces in Enjil district, Herat Province. During these operations, a quantity of assorted weapons and ten enemy hideouts were also destroyed. The security forces seized a quantity of various weapons, one vehicle, and eight motorbikes. As a result of successful operations by the vigilant security forces in Ghazni Province, 53 counterrevolutionaries were crushed. The country's security

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Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian F-4 military plane landed at an Iraqi airport on 30 August, and the two pilots requested asylum, Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio reported.

Lebanon

Pierre al-Jumayyil Death — Phalange Party leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, minister of posts, communications, health, and social affairs; and father of President Amin al-Jumayyil; died in Bikfayya on 29 August and will be buried on 30 August, Beirut radio announced. The prime minister's office declared an official 3-day mourning period throughout the country, Voice of Lebanon radio noted.

Political Developments — The Cabinet met in Bikfayya and discussed "important administrative affairs and pending government business," although no "important political decisions" emerged, Beirut radio reported. A meeting had been held earlier between President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, the radio noted. Following the earlier meeting, Junblatt affirmed that he does not want "differences" with the president, and that he respects him, according to Voice of Lebanon. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Karami described the atmosphere of the meeting as "positive," with a "spirit of cooperation."

Security Situation — Renewed clashes occurred in west Beirut, Beirut radio reported. However, the clashes were "limited" and the 6th Brigade carried out its task in maintaining security, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio added. Meanwhile, small-arms fire was exchanged in the Ash-Shuwayfat and Kafr Shima area in the mountain, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. In Tripoli, the security situation "violently exploded" when clashes broke out throughout the city, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

Sudan

Attack on Ferry — The Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) killed at least 270 government troops in an attack on a "convoy" in the Upper Nile area on 27 August, according to an SPLA statement cited by JANA. An Armed Forces official source cited by SUNA stated that a ferry on the Sobat River in the south had been attacked by "outlaws" on 28 August, but that only four soldiers were "slightly injured."

Red Sea Security Conference— Egypt has agreed to attend a conference on security in the Red Sea after Egyptian President Husni Mubarak received the invitation from President Ja'far Numayri, MENA reported. Saudi Arabia will also attend the conference, Riyadh radio noted citing a responsible government source. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman delivered a message concerning Red Sea security from Numayri to YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, San'a' radio reported.

Libya

In a speech, reported by JANA, at the opening ceremony of the international conference marking the 15th anniversary of the 1 September Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi proposed that Libya become an "international platform" for the fight against "colonialism, racism, fascism, and reaction." He also proposed that the "collective struggle" against Israel, South Africa, the United States, the United Kingdom, and France, including the liberation of French colonies throughout the world, begin in Libya.

In a 28 August speech broadcast by Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio, Al-Qadhdhafi stated during the inauguration of the "great artificial river" project that he hoped one day to see the project linked with the Nile water projects in Egypt and Sudan. He also expressed the desire to see Egypt and Sudan "liberated" and stated that Libya will "struggle" with the Egyptian and Sudanese people until their "wills" are liberated.

In a separate development, Al-Qadhdhafi received the Moroccan interior minister and an adviser to Moroccan King Hassan II, Tripoli radio reported.

Algeria

Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi received his French counterpart Claude Cheysson and exchanged political views with him, Algiers radio reported. Meanwhile, President Chadli Bendjedid held a telephone conversation with his Syrian counterpart Hafiz al-Asad on bilateral issues and topics discussed during the latter's recent visit to Algeria, SANA noted.

Mauritania-SDAR

SDAR Prime Minister Mahfoud Ali Beiba departed Mauritania after a 3-day visit, Nouakchott radio reported.

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Karmal Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Anniversary

LD300633 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 29, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of Revolutionary Council of the DRA, sent a congratulatory telegram to Tripoli addressed to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of September Revolution in that country. The telegram expresses confidence that the friendly relations between the two countries will be expanded in the interest of the people of the both countries for the cause of peace and security in the world.

Najibollah Addresses Panjsher Tribal Assembly

LD292156 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] A grand tribal assembly of elders and representatives of the workers of Hesah-e Awal and Dovvom subdistricts of Panjsher district on the solidarity and unity of the people with their revolutionary government was held in the Esteqlal school hall. The assembly was attended by Najibollah, member of PDPA Central Committee Politburo. A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that Haji Golistan, on behalf of the working people of Hesah-e Awal; Ziauddin, on behalf of Hesah-e Awal Subdistrict; Wakel Yar Mohammad and Malik Zerdad, on behalf of Hesah-e Dovvom Subdistrict, spoke at this grand assembly about their unity and infallible solidarity with our revolutionary government, and expressed their profound support for the principled policy of the party and revolutionary government and for the prosperity and well-being of the millions of the masses of the country.

A resolution about the demands and pledges of the working people of Panjsher district was read and approved by those attending the assembly.

In the final speech, Najibollah addressed those attending: Dear compatriots, elders, chiefs and representatives of the working people of Panjsher, once again I give you an assurance that our revolutionary government is trying to give assistance to the persecuted people of our beloved country.

Najibollah, in his detailed speech, said that the party and the revolutionary Government of Afghanistan has and will endeavor to be always at the service of their persecuted people and on this path, as far as it is possible, have not spared any effort and will not to do so. In explaining the comprehensive objectives of the policy of our party and revolutionary government for the prosperity and well-being of the country's workers, blossoming of the beloved homeland and exposure of the crimes of the counter-revolutionaries, Najibollah assured the people of Panjsher that no cooperation and assistance will be spared for their peaceful life.

The tribal assembly was ended by offering prayers for the progress of the beloved country and the well-being of the workers of revolutionary Afghanistan.

Kabul Province Bandit Hideouts Raided

LD300636 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 29, BAKHTAR — The process of mopping-out of the bandits and counterrevolutionaries who have been exported to Afghanistan by U.S. imperialism and the reaction of the region is gaining momentum. As the result of successful operations carried out by the security forces of the DRA, a large quantity of arms and ammunitions were recovered in the districts of Kabul Province from the hideouts of bandits. The arms and ammunitions included 3 communication units, 146 heavy guns, 8 pistols, thirty thousand bullets and a lot of explosive materials.

Meeting Marks Pakistan Solidarity Day

LD300627 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0428 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 29, BAKHTAR — The Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization (PSFO) and National Fatherland Front (NFF) of the DRA marked August 29, the international day of solidarity with the national and democratic forces of Pakistan.

Secretary-in-charge of PSFO noted the oppressions of the military rulers of Pakistan and their usurpation of the national rights of the nationalities of Pashtun, Baluch, Sind and other nationalities through the old method of the British colonial policy. He, on behalf of PSFO and other social organizations, declared the solidarity of the people of Afghanistan with the Movement of the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) and supported the struggles of the Pakistan people for their civil, political, economic and national rights.

Representatives of NFF, Democratic Organization of Women, Central Council of the Trade Union, Department of Islamic Affairs also talked about the conspiracies and deceits of the military regime especially its lies regarding election in Pakistan. At the end of the meeting, the participants of the meeting adopted a resolution in which they declared their decisive and militant solidarity with the people of Pakistan and with the national and democratic forces of Pakistan.

The resolution expresses the unflinching support of the Afghan people to the valorous struggles of the working people for the restoration of democracy and the launching of free and democratic elections on the basis of Constitution of 1973. The participants of the meeting in the resolution strongly condemn the frantic military acts committed by Zia's regime in direct collaboration with the U.S. imperialism and the Chinese hegemonism directed against the cause of peace in the region and the world.

The resolution severely denounces the hostile efforts of imperialism, hegemonism and reaction for using the territory of Pakistan as a springboard of aggression against the DRA and the focal point of conspiracies against peace-loving India. The resolution asks the military regime of Pakistan to put an end to its shameless interventions in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. While

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Israel

The Alignment leader Shim'on Peres and the Likud leader Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir have agreed upon the formation of a national unity government, Jerusalem radio reported. According to the agreement, Peres will be prime minister and Shamir will be deputy prime minister and foreign minister for the first 25 months, after which time the positions reverse for another 25 months. The Alignment's Yitzhaq Rabin will be defense minister and a Likud member will be finance minister for entire period. The 24-member Cabinet will be equally divided between the two blocs, the distribution of which will be discussed by the two leaders on 31 August, the radio added.

Reacting to this development, the leaders of the MAPAM faction of the Alignment will recommend that their party dissolve their coalition with Peres' Labor Party, the radio noted. The leaders of the MAPAM-affiliated United Kibbutz Movement also decided to oppose the agreement.

Maghreb

French Diplomacy — French President Francois Mitterrand and Moroccan King Hassan II held a meeting at Ifrane Palace, Paris radio reported citing Moroccan sources. Mitterrand's "surprise trip" was described as "private," the radio added. Meanwhile, French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson ended a 2-day visit to Algeria following a meeting with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, Algiers radio reported. Talks had centered on current major problems, particularly "economic disorder," the radio added. Cheysson then departed for Tunis, where he was welcomed by his Tunisian counterpart Beji Caid Essebsi, Tunis radio noted. Talks during his 3-day visit will center on bilateral and international problems. Cheysson also plans to meet in Tunis with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, the radio disclosed.

Algeria-Syria — Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Algiers on a visit, during which he will deliver a message to Bendjedid from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Damascus radio reported.

Morocco-Libya — King Hassan II will pay an "official visit" to Libya at the beginning of September, according to Arab diplomatic sources in Rabat cited by KUNA.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

The Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq opposition group claimed that the pilot of the Iranian F-4 plane flown to Iraq was a "well-known" Air Force officer and a member of their group, AFP reported. Tehran radio stated that the "stolen" military aircraft was taken as part of the "propaganda program designed by world arrogance" and the Iraqi regime. The detention in Iraq of passengers of the recently hijacked Iranian airliner, "despite the protests of international legal bodies," was also a part of the "propaganda conspiracy," the radio added.

Afghanistan-Pakistan

The final session in the third round of UN-sponsored indirect talks on Afghanistan ended in Geneva, Karachi radio reported. The talks, which had begun on 27 August, "ended in failure," according to "sources close to one of the delegations" cited by AFP.

In a separate development, the Afghan commander responsible for security posts around Kabul defected along with 3,000 militiamen to the mujahidin, Karachi radio reported.

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Soviet Troops Reportedly To Deploy Near Pakistan

BK301606 Hong Kong AFP in English 1555 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 30 (AFP) — Some 40,000 Soviet and Afghan troops will be deployed to seal off the border between Pakistan and Afghanistan during the next four weeks, the English language newspaper *THE MUSLIM* said here today. The move is aimed at cutting off supply lines from Pakistan to rebel forces in Afghanistan, the newspaper reported quoting reliable Afghan sources. The report said the soldiers will be deployed in the provinces of Qandahar, Paktia and Nangarhar, which border Pakistan. *THE MUSLIM* added that "thousands of Soviet soldiers" had already been sent from the Soviet Union as reinforcements for an operation of unprecedented size.

Western diplomatic sources here have not confirmed the report, although diplomats have said that from 12,000 to 14,000 Soviet troops are at Gardez, the capital of Paktia, apparently to take part in a major offensive against opponents of the Soviet-backed government in Kabul.

The sources said they were unaware of any imminent military deployment in the two other provinces. Resistance spokesmen at [words indistinct] could not confirm today's newspaper report but said it was possible the Soviet forces would mount a major offensive along the Pakistan border before winter.

Soviet and Afghan military activity has steadily increased in the frontier regions with Pakistan since the start of the year, Western military experts said. Last week in particular Pakistan accused Afghan fighters and artillery of killing 50 people — mainly Afghans — in the Tori-Mangal sector.

Habibullah Karzai, resistance spokesman in Quetta, said Soviet troops had been fighting a guerrilla war for two or three months against rebel convoys arriving from Pakistan. He said this fighting was taking place between the border and Qandahar in southern Afghanistan. "They try night time ambushes against the mujahidin (rebels) but it will be very difficult for them to seal the border," he said.

Various routes back into Afghanistan are said to be hazardous for the rebels, according to sources familiar with the territory. The Rigestan desert in the south is difficult because of the configuration of the terrain and constant Soviet surveillance. Routes through Konar and Nuristan in the north east are blocked by snow for six months in the winter and are also closely watched by Soviet and Afghan forces.

Resistance spokesmen at Peshawar have also said they suspect the Soviet Union of allowing pro-Iranian Shi'ite rebels to receive supplies from Iran. They believe these Shi'ite forces reinforce pro-Iranian groups in the region west of Kabul who attack the Sunni rebels, who are supplied from Pakistan.

Diplomatic observers in Islamabad have noted the Kabul government has made frequent references to outside interference in Afghan affairs, and they said that the Red Army could now be (?trying) to isolate the anti-Soviet rebels within Afghanistan.

Karachi: Soviet Intelligence Interrogating Mujahidin

BK311034 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Western diplomatic sources quoting reports from Afghanistan say, for the first time, the Soviet intelligence are personally interrogating Afghan mujahidin with the increase of the Kremlin's administrative and policymaking role in that country. According to reports based on interviews with the Afghan mujahidin who were imprisoned in jails in Afghanistan and later succeeded in escaping, the Soviet intelligence network, KGB, previously had left the job of interrogation to Afghan officials. With continued shooting among the factions of the Afghan communists and frequent defections of Afghan officials, the Soviets have been left with no choice but to plant their own men on sensitive posts. The sources described increasing Soviet involvement at all levels in Afghanistan as a desperate attempt to ensure Communist rule until enough reliable Soviet-trained Afghan cadres can be installed. The sources add that together with the Russian-trained Afghans, the Soviets have been growing increasingly effective in intelligence operations since last year.

Karachi: 3,000 Afghan Troops Join Mujahidin

BK310222 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] According to reports received from across the border, the commanding officer in charge of security posts, Ghulam Hassan Khan Karokhoi, along with 3,000 armed militiamen, has joined the Mujahidin. Ghulam Hassan Khan was responsible for the defense of posts in the eastern and northeastern sector of the Kabul city.

Karachi: Final Session of UN-Sponsored Talks Held

BK301536 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The final formal session of the UN-sponsored indirect talks on Afghanistan was held in Geneva today. During the session, the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Diego Cordovez, held three meetings with the Pakistani delegation and one meeting with the delegation of the Karmal administration in Afghanistan. The ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN reports from Geneva that Cordovez is expected to meet the two delegations at their respective missions before releasing a formal statement on the talks.

No Official Results Announced

BK301515 Hong Kong AFP in English 1454 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Geneva, Aug 30 (AFP) — Indirect talks between Pakistani and Afghan representatives, with a senior United Nations official acting as mediator, concluded here today, U.N. officials announced. Sources close to one of the delegations said this third round of talks [words indistinct] ended in failure, although no official results have been announced. The discussions, which began Monday, are part of a United Nations effort to (?secure)